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United States Department of Agriculture,
FOREST SERVICE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *December 12, 1905.*

TO APPLICANTS FOR GRAZING PERMITS:

In accordance with the forest-reserve rules and regulations, on and after January 1, 1906, a moderate fee will be charged for the privilege of grazing all classes of live stock.

The forest reserves belong to all of the people, but of necessity, under proper management, their use for grazing purposes can only be allowed to a limited number. Therefore it is fair and just that those who receive the grazing privilege should pay a small fee which will go toward helping to pay the running expenses of the reserves.

In order to protect and assist home builders, a special concession will be made in the grazing fee on cattle for the season of 1906 as follows:

The permits of each State or Territory for the year 1905 will be listed in order of the number of cattle covered; then beginning with the smallest, one-half of the permits will be counted off, and the number of cattle shown by the largest of these permits will be taken as a basis for this concession.

Applicants for grazing permits will be charged only half rate on cattle up to the number thus established for their State or Territory, but all cattle over this number will be charged for at the full rate.

In determining the amount to be charged, the advantages of the locality, method and cost of handling stock, transportation facilities, market conditions, and demand for range will be considered and the rate established accordingly. The number of stock to be allowed on each reserve will be fixed on the basis of mixed stock as they are usually owned and ranged in the locality.

In calculating the number for which permit will be required, and the amount to be paid for the privilege of grazing cattle and horses, all animals six months old and over at the time of entering will be counted, but no charge will be made for calves and colts under six months of age at the time of entering, or for those born during the year for which permit is granted. The intent is that the calves and colts raised during any calendar year shall be charged for during the following year.

The fact that young stock require less feed than old stock is taken into consideration in fixing the rate, and in all cases the charge will be reasonable in comparison with the advantages of the reserve.

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In counting sheep and goats, all animals six months old and over at the time of entering will be counted as grown stock, and each two head of lambs or kids under six months old will be counted as equal to one head of grown stock.

When sheep or goats enter a reserve for the purpose of lambing or kidding there, an additional charge of 2 cents per head will be made on the grown stock, and the permit number required and amount to be paid for grazing the lambs or kids raised will be estimated on the average per cent of lambs or kids usually raised in the locality, two head to count as one. Thus, a person who wishes to drive in 1,000 ewes for the purpose of lambing on a range where the average lambing is estimated to be 80 per cent would be required to have a permit for, and pay the grazing fee on, 1,400 head. The 80 per cent increase on 1,000 ewes or 800 lambs to be raised would be counted as equal to 400 grown sheep.

It will be the aim of the Forest Service to restrict the allowance for each reserve to a number of stock which experience shows to be the actual grazing capacity of the range under normal conditions, to make such range divisions among applicants and different classes of stock as are for the best interest of the reserve and commonwealth, and to divide the grazing privileges fairly. The advantages given in the use of a protected range are considered to be full compensation for the money collected, and the earnest cooperation of stockmen is solicited to carry out the policy of a conservative use of the range under such restrictions and regulations as will insure its permanent utility.

GIFFORD PINCHOT,
Forester.

Approved :
JAMES WILSON,
Secretary of Agriculture.

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